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NEWTON D. BAKER WAR SECRETARY

WILSON SELECTS FORMER MAYOR
OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, TO
FILL VACANCY.

NO DELAY IN CONFIRMATION

He Is Lawyer and Was Offered Office
of Secretary Interior Twice in 1913
But Declined—Friend of Wilson.

Washington.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war. Leaders expect quick confirmation so the new secretary may take active charge of the war department's plans for army increases and re-organization.

Mr. Baker is a lawyer, and as a leader among Ohio Democrats, has been a warm supporter of the Wilson policies since the pre-convention campaign in 1912. He has been a close personal friend of Mr. Wilson since the latter was his instructor years ago at Johns Hopkins University, and was offered the post of secretary of the interior in the original Wilson Cabinet but declined because he then was mayor. He is understood to be in thorough accord with the president on the preparedness program.

An offer of the war secretaryship was made to Mr. Baker by telegraph several days ago after the president had spent more than three weeks carefully going over a long list of those suggested to succeed Secretary Garrison. Mr. Baker accepted and, upon being notified that he would be nominated, at once telegraphed that he would be in Washington this week.

Mr. Baker, who is 44 years old, will be the youngest member of President Wilson's cabinet by more than five years.

PAGE WILL QUIT CONGRESS.

Action Result of Wilson's Demand For
Vote on Gore Resolutions.

Washington.—Robert N. Page, of the Seventh Congressional district of North Carolina, sharply surprised his colleagues and friends when he announced that he would not be a candidate for re-nomination in the approaching primary. His action was the result of the recent demand by President Wilson that Congress vote upon the resolution of warning to Americans.

Mr. Page calls attention to the fact that he presented to the committee a resolution expressing confidence in the president, and that the president is not satisfied with an unreserved expression of confidence. "This shifts to the conscience and convictions of members of congress a responsibility that the Constitution imposed upon the executive. Having the responsibility thrust upon me, I claim the right to exercise my own judgment and convictions and not have them dictated by some one else," said Mr. Page.

His letter, which is addressed to the Democratic voters of his district, is filled with striking expressions and is frank to a startling degree.

"I cannot gain the consent of my conscience, much as I would like to gratify the president and meet what seems to be the demands of my constituents, regardless of my conscientious convictions, to in every matter vote as the president requests, thereby assuming responsibility for the loss of a single American's life, or even indirectly stain my hand with his blood. In this instance I am sure that I am in possession of facts which a partial press has kept the people I represent in ignorance."

Continuing, Mr. Page makes a quotation from Christ, "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also."

He declared that the loan of \$500,000,000 to England by American capitalists, to say nothing of the profits of munition manufacturers, "has destroyed the semblance even of neutrality in the United States, and will probably lead us into war. I have no pro-German or pro-anarchy sentiment or inclination other than pro-American."

Nine Persons Burn to Death.

El Paso, Tex.—Six prisoners were burned to death and probably 40 others seriously injured when fire starting from a large tub containing a solution of gasoline and kerosene used to exterminate germ-carrying vermin exploded in the city jail. Many of the victims were thoroughly saturated with the solution when the flames enveloped them and their cries of agony were heard by a great crowd which had assembled on the outside of the jail. About 50 prisoners were taken out unharmed.

Brandeis Took Liquor Case On.

Washington.—Rev. James Cannon, Jr., of Virginia, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Anti-Saloon League of America, protested against confirmation of Louis D. Brandeis' nomination to the Supreme Court before the Senate investigating committee because of statements made by Mr. Brandeis in 1891 when he was counsel for the Protective Liquor Dealers' Association and the New England Brewers' Association before the Massachusetts Legislature.

MRS. ALLA M. DEAN



Mrs. Alla M. Dean is the new head of Cameron house, the historic mansion in Washington which has been taken over by the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage as its headquarters. Mrs. Dean is a voter in California and has been a prominent figure in suffrage work there.

FINDS NAVY EFFICIENT

TELLS COMMITTEE OF SOME
EXCELLENT TARGET PRACTICE BY FLEET.

The Dreadnaughts of the United States Lead the World and Men Are Just as Good.

Washington.—An encouraging report on the condition and efficiency of the nation's sea forces was given the house naval committee by Admiral Frank Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet.

In individual fighting efficiency, Admiral Fletcher declared, the dreadnaughts of the United States led the world, while in the skill of its officers and men, the navy had no reason to fear comparison to that of any other power.

Describing some of the things the navy is doing in the light of lessons learned in the European war, the admiral said one ship of the fleet recently had hurled seven out of 42 huge projectiles through a target 20 by 60 feet at a range of eight to nine miles, or 15,000 to 18,000 yards. The longest ranges used in naval engagements of the European war thus far, he explained, were 16,000 to 17,000 yards.

Judging from reports of target practice at Guantanamo during the last month, Admiral Fletcher said, it was probable that from 10 to 20 per cent of the shots fired could be landed on battleship at 18,000 yards. He said that inherent errors in gun fire and range determination, which do not seriously affect results at short distances, are greatly magnified as the range goes up.

To bring out the effectiveness of navy shells, Admiral Fletcher told of target work by the Wyoming last year at 12,000 yards in which three shells penetrated a 10 inch armor plate. Five out of 30 shots fired, he said, struck the small target and from 80 to 90 per cent would have landed on a battleship.

The committee took up at once the bill to authorize officers of the marine corps to accept employment in the Haitian constabulary. Col. Waller, commanding the marines in Haiti, a committee that absolute quiet prevailed there and that a new revolution could not be organized, as the natives were enjoying peace and security for the first time in 112 years.

Germans Resume Operations.

London.—The Germans have resumed their heavy offensive in the region of Verdun, with the French everywhere strongly opposing it. While over most of the front from the east of the Meuse down into the Woerwe region, the German big guns have been active, around Douaumont the Teutons launched several infantry attacks of extreme violence. These, he French war office declares, were put down by the French troops, whose fire decimated the enemy ranks.

James William Lee Dead.

Dallas, Texas.—James William Lee, a cousin of the Confederate chieftain, Robert E. Lee, died at his home here. Mr. Lee enlisted in the Confederate Army when he was 16 years old, serving throughout the conflict.

Fletcher Reports on Navy.

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MILITARY BILL NOW IN CONGRESS

MORE SWEEPING CHANGES IN
POLICY THAN PROPOSED BY
PRESIDENT.

FOUR STRIKING FEATURES

Federal Volunteer Force; Enlisted Reserve; Federalization of National Guard and an Officers' Reserve.

Washington.—The first of the national preparedness measures to reach either house of Congress for consideration was introduced in the senate by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, which perfected it after weeks of hearings and conferences. It proposes an even more sweeping change in military policy than that outlined by President Wilson in his annual message, and was described by Mr. Chamberlain as the most comprehensive piece of military legislation ever offered in Congress.

There is no vital difference between the Senate and House measures and both committee believe that when the final bill, which will be agreed upon in joint conference committee, has passed both houses, the president will be able to affix his signature to a measure that will do more than he has asked toward building up an adequate national defense.

Aside from its plan virtually to double the regular army and national guard, the senate bill has four striking features. They are:

Authorization of a purely Federal volunteer force in peace times, the object sought by Secretary Garrison in urging the continental army plan.

Authorization for a definitely enlisted reserve in peace times among men of every profession or calling whose training fits them for special duty either with troops, on lines of communication or supply, or in machine shops and munitions plants.

Federalization of the National Guard under a pay provision designed to bring this force immediately into such relations with the federal government that its training, equipment and personnel will be under supervision of the war department.

Authorization for an officers' reserve and a reserve officers' training corps, which would take in graduates from military schools and colleges and provide for their further development to command.

MOEWE REACHES HOME PORT.

German Raider Reports Sank Fifteen Vessels.

Berlin, via London.—An official statement issued by the General Naval Staff states that the German cruiser Moewe arrived in a German port. She had on board of large number of British prisoners and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars. The announcement says 15 vessels were sunk by the commerce raider.

The statement follows: "The Naval General Staff states that H. M. S. Moewe, commander Captain Burggrave Count von Dohna-Schlodien, after a successful cruise lasting several months, arrived at some home port with four British officers, 29 British marines and sailors, 166 men of crews of enemy steamers, among them 103 Indians, as prisoners, and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars.

"The vessel captured the following enemy steamers, the greater part of which were sunk and a small part of which were sent as prizes to neutral ports:

"The British steamers Corbridge, 3,687 tons; Author, 3,496 tons; Trader, 3,608 tons; Ariadne, 3,035 tons; Dromonby, 3,627 tons; Farrington, 3,146 tons; Clan MacTavish, 3,300 tons; Appam, 7,781 tons; Westburn, 3,300 tons; Horace, 3,335 tons; Flamenco, 4,829 tons; Saxon Prince, 3,471 tons. British sailing vessel, Edinburg, 1,473 tons; the French steamer Maron, 3,109 tons; the Belgian steamer Luxembourg, 4,322 tons. At several points on enemy coast the Moewe also laid out mines to which, among others, the battleship King Edward VII fell victim."

Colonel House Returns.

New York.—Col. E. M. House, who sailed for Europe on December 28 on a confidential mission for President Wilson, arrived here on the steamship Rotterdam from Falmouth. As soon as he landed from a special coast guard cutter, which met the Rotterdam at Quarantine, Col. House announced he would leave at once for Washington to meet the president. He declined to comment on his mission or what he had seen or done while abroad. He stated that he was treated with courtesy everywhere.

Ask Austria to Apologize.

Washington.—The United States is preparing to make formal demands upon Austria-Hungary as a result of the attack by an Austrian submarine upon the American tank steamer Petrolite. A note on the subject was dispatched within the next few days. It was authoritatively stated that the United States would stand by its original contentions and ask an apology for the attack, punishment of the submarine commander, and reparation for the damage done to the vessel.

JOHN G. COOPER



Congressman John G. Cooper of Ohio has just exchanged a seat in a locomotive for one in congress. Up to his election to congress Mr. Cooper was at the throttle of a railroad engine. He was born in Wigan, England, April 27, 1872, and came to America in 1880. He is a Republican and has served two terms in the Ohio legislature.

REPORT BUSINESS GOOD

REFLECTED IN REPORTS OF
AGENTS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

Southern Agents Report That Larger
Crop of Cotton Will Be Planted
This Year.

Washington.—Generally good business conditions throughout the country are reflected in reports of Federal reserve agents made public by the Federal Reserve Board. Growing scarcity of raw materials used in many American industries is noted, however, and the southern agents predict an increase in cotton acreage this year unless steps are taken to prevent it.

The Boston district reports trade generally in continued activity, with the uncertainty as to the European situation restraining undue expansion. Unrest of labor and increasing cost of raw materials, however, are said to be disturbing factors.

From New York comes the report that there are more products and workers in that district, and that the industrial activity there is of record character. On account of scarcity of raw materials, however, some houses anticipate a shortage in merchandise stocks.

The Richmond report describes conditions throughout that district as good, and points to railroad construction, increased manufacturing and new credits extended to back up the statement. The cotton acreage in the district, the report says, probably will be slightly increased this year but the practice of crop diversification will not be abandoned.

Although February is said to be usually a quiet month in the Atlanta district, the report says there has been "very little lessening" of business activity.

LAST DOUBT IS REMOVED.

Congress Knows Just Where President Wilson Stands.

Washington.—President Wilson served notice on Congress that he will consent to nothing less than a record vote on the anti-administration resolutions to warn Americans of the armed ships of European belligerents before he goes on with the German submarine negotiations.

Wilson Gives \$1,000.

Atlanta, Ga.—Donation of one thousand dollars by President Woodrow Wilson to the Ellen Wilson memorial fund for the education of the mountain youth of the South has just been announced.

British Steamer Thornaby Sunk.

London.—The British steamer Thornaby is reported to have been sunk last night by a German submarine. The vessel was carrying 1,000 tons of coal and 100 crew members. The steamer Devereaux has arrived in the Tyne, bringing steward Carlberg, who was rescued from the wreckage of the Thornaby. The captain of the Devereaux reports that two other persons from the Thornaby were saved by the steamer Highbate and that a Norwegian vessel was also in the vicinity where the Thornaby went down.

SENATE IS FIRM IN WILSON'S SUPPORT

BY VOTE OF 68 TO 14 GORE RESOLUTION IS EFFECTUALLY
KILLED.

A WARM DEBATE FOLLOWS

Free Expression of Opinion of Senators Which at Times Was Shouted and Out of Order.

Washington.—By a vote of 68 to 14 the senate carried out President Wilson's wish and killed Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans of armed belligerent ships.

In a turbulent scene, such as is seldom witnessed in the senate, the voting proceeded with senators shouting objections, futilely demanding recognition to explain their positions and making hot retorts to each other, all of which were out of order. At one time so many senators were shouting for the Vice President's recognition that the Sergeant-at-Arms was called to restore quiet.

After having maneuvered for two days to get the resolution in such parliamentary position that it was disposed of without debate the Senate then proceeded to a general discussion of the subject which continued all afternoon to the dismay of administration supporters. There were free expressions of opinion that the senate's action, because the vote actually was taken on a motion to table the Gore resolution with a correction by the author and a substitute by Senator McCumber, was in effect a "scotch verdict" and had not actually accomplished the purpose of the President. Such statements aroused the President's friends, who feared they would produce an effect directly opposite to that intended, a notice to the world that the senate stands behind the President in his demand on Germany for the rights of Americans traveling the seas.

In the house, however, the foreign affairs committee by a vote of 17 to 3 took a longer step toward meeting fully the President's wishes. It voted to report the McElmore warning resolution with the recommendation that it be tabled.

At the White House satisfaction was expressed with the senate's action. Senator Gore voted for the motion to table and declared he considered the administration victory a mixed one.

BATTLE CONTINUES TO RAGE.

More Than 3,000 Men Perished When French Cruiser Was Sunk.

London.—In the sinking in the Mediterranean recently of the French auxiliary cruiser Providence II, the indications are that there occurred the greatest marine disaster in the world's history, so far as loss of life is concerned.

The French Admiralty reports that there were nearly 4,000 persons on board, and up to date it has only accounted for 870 of them. Seemingly, therefore, more than 3,000 men perished when the former trans-Atlantic liner went to the bottom. The staff of the Third Colonial Infantry Regiment was among the many soldiers aboard the cruiser. The story of how the vessel was sunk remains to be told.

Around the village of Douaumont which is in the hands of the Germans is raging a battle of great intensity. Having captured the village and extended their lines west and south, the Germans were forced to give ground before vicious attacks of the French who regained part of the terrain they had lost. The fighting here is proceeding unabated.

Injunction Against Conductors.

Atlanta, Ga.—Suit to enjoin officers and members of the Order of Railway Conductors from "carrying out a conspiracy of threatened strikes" as a protest against the installation by railroads of the White audit system was filed in United States District Court here by counsel for audit company.

Deny Right of Federal Court.

Norfolk, Va.—The German Empire through Lieut. Hans Eerg, commanding the former British liner Appam, and L. M. von Scholling, vice consul for the district comprising Norfolk, Newport News and Portsmouth, denied the jurisdiction of the Federal Court in deciding the status of the ship in answering the proceedings instituted by the African Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., of Liverpool, for recovery of the vessel. The answer was filed but no date set for hearing.

Mayors Organize.

New Orleans.—A permanent organization of American mayors to promote the cause of National defense was effected here at a meeting of mayors and their representatives from 80 large cities.

The organization is to be known as the National Defense Conference of Mayors. Mayor Kiel of St. Louis was presided, appointed a committee on resolutions of 11 men. The principal speakers at the sessions were Mayor Mitchell of New York and Cornelius Vanderbilt of New York.

JOHN CRAYTON MILLS DIES

Col. Mills Was Prominent in Western North Carolina in Finance and Politics.—Well Known in State.

Rutherfordton.—Col. John Craton Mills died at his residence here. Mr. Mills had been suffering from a complication of disease for some time. The funeral was conducted from the home of Rev. Albert Sherrill, pastor of the local Methodist church, of which deceased was a member. The Masons and Knights of Pythias, together with the Junior Order of the town, escorted the body to the grave in the city cemetery.

Colonel Mills was one of the most prominent figures in the western part of the state. He has represented the county and state in various capacities. State senator in 1899, chairman of county Democratic committee for a long time, member of state central committee one of the notification committee on the occasion of the nomination of Vice President Marshall four years ago, member of Governor Glenn's staff, in each of these and otherwise he served well. In fraternal circles Mr. Mills was prominent. For the last 15 years he had been master of exchequer for the State Supreme Lodge K. of P. His business relations were extended also. He was secretary of the Cleghorn Cotton Mills, director in the Commercial Bank, president of the Rutherford Telephone company and co-director with T. C. Cox of the extensive Cox estate.

New Courses at A. & M.

West Raleigh.—A number of new courses will be offered next year in the animal husbandry division of the A. & M. College. Among these will be course in scientific and practical production of stock, including beef cattle, sheep, horses, mules, and swine. Another new course will be devoted in part to the management of livestock farms, and in part to butchering, curing, and care of meats on the farm. A new course will be given also in farm and creamery butter making and creamery management; while, in view of the present development of the cheese industry in the western counties of the state, a new course will be offered in cheese making which will be of particular interest and value.

Mr. T. C. Reed, at present dairy instructor in the agricultural college of the University of Missouri, has been elected associate professor of dairy husbandry at the A. & M. College. Mr. Reed was reared on a dairy farm, and has received admirable training in dairy science. He is a B. S. and A. M. graduate of the University of Missouri, and has taught in the agricultural division of that university for several years. Professor Reed's coming will make the animal industry division of the A. & M. College one of the strongest in the South.

To Better Light Asheville.

Asheville.—City commissioners of Asheville took a long step toward giving Asheville a real white way, when they amended the ordinance requiring signs to be placed close to the buildings so as to allow them to project from five and a half to nine feet from the building line. The amendment specifies that the signs, to come under this ruling, must be of the electric variety, and must burn a certain number of hours each night.

No Increase in Cotton.

Kinston.—Lenoir county farmers will increase their cotton acreage very little if any this year. Reports from the lower part of the county say the acreage will be about the same as last year, while, the Mosley, Hall and Institute sections the planters generally have agreed not to increase. In other parts most of the planters will hold to last year's acreage. The corn production is expected to be considerably larger.

Stock Rivers With Fish.

Washington.—H. L. Gibbs, commissioner of Fisheries, is here making arrangement for stocking streams of North Carolina and called at the Treasury Department. A hatchery has been established already on Chowan and River. Hatcheries will also be established on the Cape Fear, Neuse and Trent. It has been announced by Representative Godwin that the Fish Hawk soon will go to the Cape Fear river.

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFS.

Eighth District Republicans have endorsed Charles E. Hughes as presidential preference.

Brunswick county has one school house which is so isolated that the county superintendent has never been able to find it.

The rosin market in the eastern part of the state is very active. A little son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Pierce of near Statesville was fatally burned recently. Clothing caught from the open fire place.

Durham Y. M. C. A. campaign for \$25,000 has been completed. Randolph is planning a record breaking county commencement on April 7.

Several North Carolina surgeons are touring Middle Atlantic and Middle Western cities to attend a number of clinics.

That he wasn't mistaken for a turkey by Harry Jackson, a Connecticut sportsman who fired a load of shot into his face at Maysville a few days ago, is the statement made by Hiram McDaniel, of that place.

REPUBLICANS HOLD STATE CONVENTION

JOHN M. MOREHEAD IS ELECTED
NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN
OVER DUNCAN.

MARION BUTLER RETURNS

Convention Was Noisy and Unruly,
Only Hushed Into Silence By Un-
expected Turn in Events.

Raleigh.—John Motley Morehead was elected National Committeeman over E. Carl Duncan. His election came after one of the most thrilling and dramatic incidents that has ever taken place in a political convention, wherein E. Carl Duncan, the Republican leader of this state for many years, faced his arch-enemy Marion Butler on the platform and denounced him in terms that burnt and blistered, while that fiery individual smiled bravely and stroked his whiskers.

The convention, noisy and unruly from the beginning, was hushed into silence by the unexpected turn of events and they listened at first with rapt attention. Soon the tension snapped and Carl Duncan, who had ruled with a rod of iron, for whose wisdom the party had always had the highest respect, for the first time heard himself hissed in a Republican convention. He stood his ground stubbornly, but it was no use.

And this is how it came about. Butler had gone out with the platform committee and the convention was sailing along merrily without him. A set of delegates to the National convention had been selected, eight of them, and everything would be all one way. Butler's Cumberland County representative, McCaskill, had moved to sidetrack the list of delegates and elect a National Committeeman. The convention sat down on him, voting practically unanimously to proceed.

Some one moved the election of Morehead, at Butler's suggestion, and there was a call for making it unanimous by acclamation. It looked like it was going through with a whoop when Mr. Thompson blocked it with the nomination of E. C. Duncan.

Then followed one of the warmest debates ever heard in a state convention, and it was some time before a crowd settled down sufficiently for a vote to be taken. The final vote stood 335 for Duncan and 761 for Morehead.

The big fight was over, but the smaller conflict remained—the election of four delegates to the Chicago convention. Some argument resulted over the eight delegate plan, which went into the discard. A tedious roll-call finally resulted in the election of the following: J. S. Lewis, of Randolph, who led with 92 votes; Thomas Settle and J. J. Britt, of Buncombe, and W. S. O'B. Robinson, of Wake.

Alternates were chosen as follows: Clarence Call, Wilkes; L. L. Wrenn, Chatham; H. S. Williams, Cabarrus; John E. Cameron, Lenoir.

Electors at large, John E. Fowler of Sampson and John A. Hendrick of Madison.

The naming of the State Executive Committee followed:

First district, Hugh Paul, Washington; second district, George W. Stanton, Wilson; third district, J. S. Basnight, Newbern; fourth district, J. J. Jenkins, Siler City; fifth district, Gilliam Grissom, Greensboro; sixth district, A. F. Scales, Dunn; seventh district, R. H. Bessecker, Lexington; eighth district, J. D. Dorsett, Spencer; ninth district, John M. Morehead, Charlotte; tenth district, C. A. Dickey, Black Mountain.

Fix Dates For Fairs.

Greensboro.—At a meeting here the Carolina circuit of fairs agreed upon the following dates for fairs in the circuit this year: Rocky Mount, September 19-22; Salisbury, September 26-29; Winston-Salem, October 3-6; Greensboro, October 10-14; Raleigh, October 16-21; Charlotte, October 24-27; Spartanburg, October 31 to November 3.

Fayetteville Bank to Reopen.

Fayetteville.—Not in a long time has any single piece of news borne a greater measure of genuine importance to the people of the Cape Fear section than the announcement that a majority of the stockholders of the Fourth National Bank of Fayetteville had unanimously taken action to reopen the bank. The reopening will take place in 90 days if the present plan goes through. The action of the stockholders followed a meeting of depositors which adopted an agreement containing a 90-day limit.

Employ no Children Under Age.

Fayetteville.—Denial of the testimony of Miss Eunice Sinclair of Fayetteville before the senate committee investigating the Keating child labor bill, that the Necronest Mills of Cumberland employed children under the legal age, is made by Clinton Corley vice president and manager of the company. Miss Sinclair's testimony was given on February 18. In it she stated that in her investigation she had found children as young as nine and ten years employed in the Necronest Mills.